Morgan B. Sherwood

Morgan B. Sherwood, Emeritus Professor of History at the University of California, Davis, died in Davis Tuesday, October 31, of esophageal cancer at the age of 71.

He was born on October 22, 1929 in Anchorage, Alaska, and spent the first 19 years of his life there, graduating from Anchorage High School in 1947. He went on to Compton College in Los Angeles, San Diego State College, and U.C. Berkeley, where he received both his MA and Ph.D. degrees in history in 1958 and 1962.

He served with the U.S. Army in Korea in 1953-54, then worked with the Refugee Investigation Team in Hamburg, Germany in 1955-56.

Mr. Sherwood held teaching positions at the University of Maryland, the University of Cincinnati, and UC Davis, the latter from 1965 to 1991, when he retired. While at Davis he helped edit Agricultural History journal for many years, served as editorial advisor to half a dozen scholarly journals and several book publishers, and was a member of or an advisory board appointee to a number of organizations devoted to the American west and environmental history.

The author of four books about Alaska and his history, he also co-edited "The Politics of American Science" and published numerous articles and reviews in scholarly journals. In 1983 he received an honorary degree from the University of Alaska. In addition to his research in American science and technology, the American west-Alaska, and environmental history, he maintained a lifelong interest in magic and quackery and their histories. He valued his new and old friends and colleagues in his profession, as well as special friends in Alaska, and members of the Gladstone Society in Winters.

He is survived by his brothers, Robert and Warren, of Washington and Alaska; his wife, Jeanie, and several nieces and nephews.

No services will be held. At his request Mr. Sherwood will be cremated and his ashes distributed over Kachemak Bay, Alaska.

The family wishes to thank Yolo Hospice for their exemplary care, and suggests any memorials be made to them at P.O. Box 1014, Davis, CA 95616, or to a hospice of the donor's choice.

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